Agra, Muzaffarnagar, Sultan pur, Ghaziabad and Saharanpur. During the drive, 122 sales premises, were raided and 238 samples were drawn, 10 FIR were filed and 17 persons arrested.

(b) The manufacturer of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity of the unlicensed manufacturers. However, whenever such cases come to light, raids are carried out by the State Drugs Control Department with the help of police to apprehend the culprit.

(c) Hospitals purchase drugs from licensed manufacturers or dealers. State Drugs Inspectors carry out sampling of drugs from Hospitals to ensure quality of the drugs supplied to the hospitals.

Stem cell therapy

†2670. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incurable diseases are being treated by means of stem cell therapy in the country also;

(b) if so, the reasons for not informing the people about treatment through stem cell therapy in the country;

(c) the number of patients who have gone abroad to get treatment through stem cell therapy during the last five years; and

(d) the details of efforts being made for making this mode of treatment easily accessible to all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) There are claims by the institutions regarding various incurable diseases treated by stem cell. According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there is no approved indication for stem cell therapy as a part of routine medical practice, other than Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT). Accordingly, all stem cell therapy other than BMT shall be treated as experimental. Government do not maintain Central Registry with regard to the number of patients going abroad to get treatment through stem cell therapy during the last five years. ICMR have prepared draft National Guidelines for Stem Cell Research and Therapy.

Admissions of convicted persons in RML Hospital

2671. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of white collared offenders involved in criminal cases have been admitted in R.M.L. Hospital even for minor ailments;

(b) if so, what is the number of such persons admitted in the Hospital during the last two years; and

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) what action Government had taken against such, doctors who had bailed the criminal from going to jail on frivolous grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, two incidents have come to notice where two persons involved in criminal cases were brought to the Hospital for medical examination and were admitted for observation. In one case the person concerned was admitted for observation on complaint of sudden onset of breathlessness. He was discharged within 24 hours. In the other case, the person concerned was brought to the RML Hospital on 15.3.07 at 10.45 P.M. and was admitted for accelerated hypertension, asthama and fever. She was discharged on 16.3.07 at 8.00 P.M. However, in both these cases the treating doctors had admitted these persons for observation as per their medical opinion and not with a view to help them for staying out of jail. Subsequent to these episodes, guidelines have been issued in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital which *inter-alia* provide that in future no patient shall be admitted without prior approval of the judicial authority who had sent the individual for medical examination.

Appointment of specialists

2672. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether doctors with PG qualification who are performing the duties of specialists in Safdarjung and R.M.L. Hospitals are being deputed to work in CGHS dispensaries for general duty in place of the CMOs of the CGHS dispensaries deputed to these Hospitals under short-term re-orientation programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether on account of the above scheme, the treatment schedule of the patients currently undergoing treatment under the specialists in the hospitals would be disrupted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the scheme would be reversed in the interest of the patients and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The specialists referred to in the question are appointed for providing specialist service to CGHS beneficiaries. When they visit the dispensaries, there also they are servicing CGHS beneficiaries only.

HIV/AIDS Patients

2673. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons responding as HIV/AIDS positive in different States of the country, so far;